

Southern Standard

DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE, AND TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE RESOURCES OF TENNESSEE.

VOL. IV.

McMINNVILLE, TENNESSEE, SATURDAY, AUGUST 4, 1883.

NO. 38.

SAMPLE COPIES.

We send copies of the STANDARD this week to many persons who are not subscribers, with the hope that they may be pleased with the paper and send us the subscription price, \$1 per annum. The STANDARD is the only weekly agricultural paper published in the State. It is a plain country paper, intended more for usefulness than for show, with clear, easy print that children and old people can read with ease. We think the paper when carefully examined, will recommend itself, and soon become a welcome visitor to every one to whom we may send it for examination. We would be glad to send a few sample copies to any person who may desire to see it, and would thank our friends for the names of such.

Communications.

Bardwell, Kentucky.

To the Standard.

Your paper finds its way down here and is the most welcome visitor I receive. I find many Tennesseans here from Warren, White and Van Buren counties. Perhaps their relatives and friends would be interested in a letter from this place.

Ballard county lies along the Ohio and Mississippi rivers. It is about 100 feet above the rivers. The surface is somewhat rolling, is heavily timbered, and the soil is very fertile. Two railroads pass through the western part of the county—the Illinois Central and the Mobile & Ohio. The color of the soil is a light yellow. The timber is oak, pecan and cypress. The people are engaged mostly in farming. The land produces everything adapted to this climate. Though the surface is broken the people use much machinery. The self-binding reaper is generally used. It is common to make 20 bushels wheat to the acre, and often the case that a farmer makes 1,000 bushels in a single crop. Farmers tell me that they have made as high as 30 bushels to the acre without fertilizing. Corn yields from 8 to 15 barrels to the acre. For clover this land is not surpassed in the world. Hay of all kinds does well. Fruit and vegetables do well.

This county has great shipping facilities. All vegetables may be disposed of readily at good prices. Fruit raising is not engaged in very extensively. Many, however, have young orchards that are yielding heavily.

The land here is generally rich, not rich in spots. It is as rich on top of a hill as it is in a bottom. I never saw land anywhere else that produces as well. Considering its quality it is remarkably cheap. Land with some improvements can be bought for \$10 an acre; \$25 an acre would buy the best farms that are for sale.

The State of Kentucky has a good system of free schools. The people here are careful to have their children attend school. I was in this county five years ago, and in returning to it I find that much improvement has gone up all over the country. Yours,
R. P. H.

Something for Our Schools.

To the Standard.

As our free schools are now beginning, teachers should try to make them as interesting as possible to their pupils, and I here present a subject with which teachers can interest all pupils who have a general knowledge of arithmetic.

Nearly all children have observed by looking at an almanac, that A sometimes stands for Sunday, sometimes B, sometimes G, etc.

Teachers should explain to their pupils that Dominical letter means Lord's Day letter; that the first day of the year is always denoted by it, the second by B, etc., therefore the seventh

day of the year by G.

It is now very plain that if any person can tell the day on which any year commences, he can, by a short calculation, tell on what day of the week any day of any month will occur in that year.

For example, he can determine the following facts:

July 4, 1836, was Sunday.
Dec. 8, 1849 was Saturday.
Sept. 25, 1838, was Tuesday.
April 2, 1786, was Sunday.
Jan. 8, 1815, was Sunday.
July 4, 1776, was Thursday.
July 4, 1870, was Saturday.
Dec. 8, 1874, was Tuesday.
March 1, 1890, will be Saturday.
July 4, 1857, was Saturday.

There are two rules for finding the Dominical letter for this century, and the pupil can work by both rules. If both rules give the same letter, the calculation is very certain to be right.

Rule 1st—Multiply the number of the year above 1800 by 5, and divide the product by 7, neglecting the remainder. Divide the quotient by 7, and subtract the remainder from 5, if it is less than 5; or from 12, when the remainder is equal to or greater than 5. This last remainder is the number of the Dominical letter.

In leap years, the Dominical letter thus obtained is the one for the last ten months of the year. The letter for the first two months is the next following letter in the alphabet, except when the Dominical letter thus obtained is G, in which case the letter for the next two months will be it.

Rule 2d.—To the given year add its fourth part, rejecting the fraction; divide this sum by 7; if nothing remains the Dominical letter is A; but if there is a remainder subtract it from 8, and the residue will be the number of the Dominical letter for that year.

The extra letter for leap year will be found as in the first.

Let us now apply these rules and prove the last of the above statements, viz., that July 4, 1857, was Saturday.

57 multiplied by five produces 285. 285 divided by 4 gives a remainder of 1; subtract the remainder from 5, and the remainder is 4. D is therefore the Dominical letter, as it is the fourth of the alphabet.

The fourth day of the year was Sunday and the first was Thursday.

Having established the fact that the year 1857 began on Thursday, find on what day of the week was the fourth day of the same year as follows:

Count all the days in January except the first, 20; February, 28; March, 31; April, 30; May, 31; June, 30; July, 4. Total 187. Divide this amount by 7 and it gives 26 weeks and 2 days over, consequently the fourth of July was 2 days after Thursday, which is Saturday.

To find the same Dominical letter by rule second proceed as follows:

4)1857
Add one fourth 464
7)2321

331-4

This gives a remainder of 4. Subtract this from 8 and a remainder of four is left. This gives the fourth letter of the alphabet for the Dominical letter as the first rule gave it. If we wish to find the Dominical letter for the eighth century use the second rule. When there is a remainder after subtracting it from 7, and the remainder will be the Dominical letter for that year. If there is no remainder after division the Dominical letter is G.

By this rule we can find on what day of the week Washington was born, Braddock was defeated, Wolfe gained his great victory, etc.

In my boyhood days I verified this rule by asking old people who were married during Washington's administration, to tell me on what day of the week and month they were married. Many men and women can remember

that important event.

Suppose teachers give their pupils the following question: On what day of the week was our independence declared?

4)1776
444

7)2220

317-1

As there is a remainder 1, subtract this from 7 and the remainder is 6. F is the Dominical letter.

As 1876 was leap year, the Dominical letter for the first two months was G, hence that year began on Saturday.

Reckoning for January, 30; February, 29; March, 31; April, 30; May, 31; June, 30; July, 4. This gives 185 days, or 26 weeks and 3 days, consequently the 4th of July, 1876, was three days after Monday, or Thursday.

If we go back to the seventeenth century and attempt to find on what day of the week Milton, Tully or Newton was born, we shall present a problem too intricate for any pupils in our school.

People may ask, "Of what use is such a rule? What does it signify whether an event happened on Monday or Tuesday? We had several young Americans in school while I was teaching at Waters and Walling, who thought it was not respectable to learn these rules, and they called it studying the almanac." We were studying the calendar and we used the almanac to aid us in understanding the calendar.

We will now present two cases which will show the importance of understanding the calendar.

A witness once testified in court that the 4th of July, 1870, was Sunday. The opposing counsel, having a knowledge of these rules, showed plainly that the witness had sworn falsely. He threw the testimony out, and thus gained his case.

In 1847, charges of unministerial conduct were brought against a preacher who had been twenty-five years in the ministry. One of the charges was that he had "indiscreetly kissed a young lady who was a member of his church." On trial the following examination took place:

Counsel for the accused—When did this kissing occur?

Witness—On the night of July 29, 1845.

Counsel—At what time of night?

Witness—Between nine and ten.

Counsel—If it was in the night how did you happen to see the kissing?

Witness—The moon was shining brightly and it was several hours high.

The counsel asked to have the trial adjourned for thirty minutes until he could make a short calculation. When the trial again commenced, he proved that on the night of July 29, 1845, the moon did not rise, but that it rose soon after midnight on the morning of the 30th of July. The witness was discarded and the preacher was honorably acquitted.

The utility of these rules will now be plainly seen. J. P. CLARK.

Clearmont.

To the Standard:

Wheat threshing is over, and the crop is poor. Oats are good. Irish potatoes are good, and many of us are planting the second crop, enough to make our own seed.

Our free schools have opened with good prospects. Mr. Smith Oliver is teaching at Oak Grove church and Mr. Russell at the Bates school house, and Mr. Jeff Rhea at Pleasant Hill.

There is an abundance of sickness in the neighborhood, mostly flux.

Madame Rumor says we are to have the strangest wedding that we ever have had or ever will have until Bill Hennessee marries again.

The STANDARD is well liked in this community. MASON.

The Catoosa Courier says that Judge Gordon sold a bale of Confederate money last week for \$4 on the \$1000.

From Trousdale.

To the Standard.

Crops have been suffering for rain, but we have a fine rain this morning, which will be of much advantage to late corn.

Flux in this community and some deaths. Jas. Gilley and child died a few days ago, as also a child of Calvin Duke. The child of Dr. Brewer, who has been quite ill, is improving and will be up soon.

George Mitchell is happy again. His wife presented him another fine boy. W. A. Hancock and Miss Nanine Allison were married Monday last in our little village, Dr. Brewer officiating.

Mrs. McBroom, son-in-law and daughter from Cannon, are visiting the family of D. C. Smartt, of this place.

The new house of Dr. Brewer is about completed, which adds much to the appearance of our little village.

Success to the STANDARD and its many readers. B.

Trousdale, Tenn., Aug. 1, '83.

Irving College.

To the Standard.

Corn is laid by in this vicinity. W. G. Etter's thrasher and Capt. Snow's evaporator are running constantly. I hope the day is not far distant when all our orchardmen will use the evaporators instead of the still. Mr. Jas. Cagle of Hill's Creek, has purchased a Gem evaporator and is pleased with it.

Last Saturday while Jake Curtis was on his way to Capt. Snow's evaporator with a load of fruit his horses became frightened, and in jumping from the wagon he was severely hurt. D.

From Rowland.

To the Standard:

The hum of the thrasher can now be heard in almost any direction. The wheat crop is turning out much better than was expected. Chas. Collier and John Womack made 18 bushels to the bushel sown. I. T. Hillis made the same. Our public schools commenced with good prospects. P.

Rowland, July 31.

July Crop Report.

American.

Below is the condition per cent. of the crops in Tennessee for July as compared with the month of June, 1883:

EAST TENNESSEE.

One hundred and forty-three reports from thirty-two counties give the following:

Corn, condition per cent., 92; cotton, 92; tobacco, 93; sorghum, 92; millet, 95; Irish potatoes, 88; sweet potatoes, 95; apples, 76; peaches, 85; grapes, 100; berries, 100; melons, 87; garden products, 92; buckwheat, 93; peanuts, 94; stock peas, 99. Oats, yield, per cent., 98; wheat, average yield per acre, 9 bushels.

MIDDLE TENNESSEE.

Two hundred and twenty-eight reports from forty-one counties give the following:

Corn, condition per cent., 94; cotton, 91; tobacco, 93; sorghum, 92; millet, 96; Irish potatoes, 101; sweet potatoes, 98; apples, 63; peaches, 68; grapes, 94; berries, 98; melons, 89; garden products, 99; buckwheat, 92; peanuts, 92; stock peas, 101; oats yield, 100 per cent.; wheat, average yield per acre, 7 bushels.

WEST TENNESSEE.

One hundred and thirty-four reports from twenty-one counties give the following:

Corn, condition per cent., 90; cotton, 94; tobacco, 92; sorghum, 98; millet, 97; Irish potatoes, 105; sweet potatoes, 97; apples, 61; peaches, 55; grapes, 80; berries, 96; melons, 85; garden products, 95; buckwheat, 98; peanuts, 90; stock peas, 107; oats yield, per cent., 92; wheat, average yield per acre, 7 bushels.

Average for the State—Corn, 92;

cotton, 92; tobacco, 90; sorghum, 94; millet, 90; Irish potatoes, 101; sweet potatoes, 97; apples, 67; peaches, 69; grapes, 92; berries, 97; melons, 97; garden products, 95; buckwheat, 95; peanuts, 92; stock peas, 102; oats yield per cent., 97; wheat, yield per acre, 8 bushels.

Compared with the average condition for the month of June, corn, cotton and Irish and sweet potatoes show an improvement of one per cent.; tobacco and stock peas two, and buckwheat three, while garden products show a decrease of one per cent., grapes, berries and melons two, peanuts, four, apples ten and peaches thirteen per cent.

Fruits and Vegetables.

Nashville World.

The Davidson County Fruit and Vegetable Growers' Association met yesterday morning, Dr. T. A. Atchison presiding.

Mr. W. E. Watkins, of the committee on grapes, submitted an interesting report showing the condition of the different varieties, and discussion followed.

Mr. C. B. Harwood reported that a strange worm was attacking his strawberry vines at the roots, and that his planting was half destroyed.

A good exhibit was made of onions. In this exhibit were two of the Giant Roccos, weighing thirty-three and thirty-four ounces.

Dr. Chisholm presented a basket of his fine Lurie grapes, which were admired and liked by all.

On motion of Dr. Atchison the Mechanical and Agricultural Association was requested to open books for subscription for stock for a canning factory and for a starch factory.

Col. Wade was elected a new member.

Mr. T. G. Cox, from the office of Commissioner McWhirter, was present to call attention of the importance of making an exhibit at the Louisville exposition.

It was determined to have a grand exhibition of all the products at the next regular meeting and the articles exhibited will be sent to Louisville for further exhibit.

Dog Fennel vs. Potato Bugs.

Nashville World.

Botanist and entomologists will please come to judgement on the following:

"Do you know," said Mr. J. M. Ezell, of the fifth district, whose farm adjoins the state insane asylum, to a World reporter yesterday, "Do you know how I kept the little striped bugs off my melons, cucumbers and squashes this year?"

The reporter admitted he was at sea.

"Well," continued Mr. Ezell, "all those who grow the fruits in question are terribly pestered by the striped bug. Close to my melon vines is a patch of dog fennel, and I have noticed that the bug referred to never touches the fennel. Consequently I came to the conclusion that this herb must be, if not poison, at least nauseous to the striped bug. I therefore gathered a quantity of it, put it in a keg with cold water and crushed and churned it until the water looked greenish. Then I poured the solution on the melon, cucumber vines, etc., affected by this insect pest, and the result was that the bugs thereupon died and no others came so long as I applied the solution."

About thirty years ago eighteen hymn books were bought for the use of the congregation at Bingham's chapel, in Harris county, Ga. Sixteen of these books are still there, in use and well preserved.

Maj. Byrd, of Polk county, Ga., says that on his farm the same Irish potatoes have been used in planting forty years, and that so far from degenerating, they never fail to yield an abundant and delicious crop.